MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Cease-Fire Violations--The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio claimed that the Israelis violated the cease-fire on 27 July by firing heavy machineguns at Kafr Tibnit and Hursh an-Nabi Tahir in southern Lebanon. The radio also said Israeli planes flew over southern Lebanon and Beirut but were repulsed by ground units. According to INA, on 27 July a joint forces unit stormed At-Tayyibah in the border strip and fired a salvo of 16 rockets on Al-Qulay'ah and Marj 'Uyun. Jerusalem radio reported that the cease-fire was also violated twice on the morning of 28 July when the Palestinians fired into the Christian enclave. IDF radio cited "free Lebanon" commander Maj Sa'd Haddad as saying the 26 July shelling of villages in southern Lebanon was perpetrated by Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) members and not by those of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

Israeli Reconnaissance Flights--According to Jerusalem radio, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin asserted that Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon will continue since Israel did not agree to stop them within the framework of the cease-fire agreement.

PLO Meeting, 'Arafat-Jibril Talks--The Voice of Palestine reported that at a meeting of the Palestinian revolution command attended by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and all the leaders of the resistance groups, the participants declared their commitment to Palestinian unity against Israel on both the political and military levels. According to the radio, they also unanimously agreed to respect the decisions of the joint command of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement. The radio reported that 'Arafat met later with PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril to exchange views on the events in Lebanon and on the importance of consolidating Palestinian national unity and of adhering to the decisions issued by the joint command. The meeting was dominated by a "very frank atmosphere," the radio said. Jerusalem radio reported that as a result of pressure by 'Arafat, the PFLP-GC announced that it will stop shelling Israeli settlements if Israel stops attacking targets in Lebanon and if the Christian militia also stops shelling.

Fatah-PFLP-GC Clashes--Jerusalem radio, citing reliable reports from Beirut, said there were violent clashes between Fatah and the PFLP-GC near An-Nabatiyah. It reported that a PFLP-GC vehicle hit three Fatah members at a checkpoint and that Fatah retaliated by setting fire to several PFLP-GC offices and arresting several PFLP-GC members. The radio also said there are rumors in Lebanon that PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril is in hiding in Syria, fearing that 'Arafat's men may make an attempt on his life.

Al-Jumayyil, Sham'un Comments--Voice of Lebanon radio cited the leader of the Lebanese Front, Commander Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil as saying that the results of the recent Arab followup committee meetings did not meet his expectations. He said the Syrians have deluded the Arabs into believing that the "Lebanese problem" is basically one of determining how to deal with Israel, whereas in fact the problem lies in the Syrian and Palestinian occupation of Lebanon.

According to the radio, Al-Jumayyil asserted that it is time for the Lebanese to draft plans to improve and control the situation without depending on other countries' initiatives. The radio also cited former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un as saying that no progress will ever be made if the Arabs continue to deal with the Syrians according to the latter's wishes.

Israeli Invasion Predicted--In an interview with the London-based weekly AL-MAJALLAH, Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan predicted that if U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's current diplomatic efforts in the Middle East fail, Israel will invade southern Lebanon in order to strike at the Palestinian resistance and at the joint forces. He asserted that the destruction of the bridges in southern Lebanon is a prelude to such an invasion.

Syria

A Soviet military delegation headed by the deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy arrived on a weeklong visit to Syria on 27 July, according to SANA. He was welcomed at the airport by Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali, people's army commander, the news agency added.

Iran

New Prime Minister--Tehran radio, in its press review headlines, cited ETTELA'AT as reporting that "the premiership of Dr Bahonar is definite" but gave no further deatils. Mohammad Javad Bahonar is currently minister of education and secretary general of the Islamic Republican Party (IRP).

Executions, Arrests--Tehran radio reported that 16 Mojahedin-e Khalq members, including Central Committee member Mohammad Reza Sa'adati, were executed. It also said two Mojahedin-e Khalq members were arrested in Chalus for trying to blow up the IRP office in that city. Tehran radio reported that a bomb exploded in front of a Tehran movie theater, killing one or two passersby. However, a related AFP report put the death toll at nine.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces advanced more than 7 km on the Karkheh Kur front and took at least 100 Iraqi prisoners. It claimed that more than 20 Iraqi tanks, troop carriers and vehicles were destroyed and that 15 more were captured intact. An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by INA, reported that following a fierce clash in the Abadan region between Iraqi forward units and an Iranian infantry force supported by tanks, the Iranians were forced to retreat with a loss of more than 370 men.

Afghanistan

According to Kabul radio, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has described the EEC proposal for the convening of an international conference on Afghanistan as "completely unrealistic" and "unacceptable." The minister said the Afghan Government resolutely and firmly rejects the suggestion that a discussion of the just rights and vital interests of the Afghan people be held without the participation of the legal representative of the Afghan Government.

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FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS OTTAWA SUMMIT DISCUSSION

LD271818 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Announcement of the DRA Foreign Ministry]

[Text] According to reports reaching us, the heads of state and governments of seven major capitalist countries that gathered recently in Ottawa, the capital of Canada, made a number of statements concerning Afghanistan. In their final document, the seven countries declared their support for international efforts regarding the right of self-determination of the Afghan people.

This is not, of course, the first time that imperialist circles have given themselves the right to express views on behalf of the Afghan people and to interfere openly in Afghan internal affairs. However, the imperialist states, in particular the United States, have taken the issue even further, expressing their support for the armed aggression against the DRA and making interference in the internal affairs of our country the official policy of their governments.

As has been clearly and repeatedly declared by the DRA Government, such policy is in obvious violation of all norms of international law and the principles of the UN Charter. The Afghan people, determindly and resolutely, have chosen their path of development and progress, that is to say, the path of eliminating the rotten feudal system and building a just and new society, and are striving forward on the path of revolutionary (?changes).

The constituent congress on the National Fatherland Front has clearly expressed the intention of the people of Afghanistan in its resolutions. No power on earth, no conspiracies and intrigue of imperialism and hegemonism, no allegations, lies and imperialist propaganda can divert the people of Afghanistan from this path.

The DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs says the DRA Government previously declared the so-called perposal by the EEC countries to convene an international conference on Afghanistan, which has been approved by the seven major capitalist countries, completely unrealistic to us and, therefore, unacceptable. This proposal is, once again, another effort to deny the rights of the people of Afghanistan and of the DRA Government. This is open interference in Afghan internal affairs and an obstacle in the path of the political solution of the situation concerning Afghanistan.

The seven major capitalist countries and the EEC countries are seeking and making proposals to discuss the just rights of the people of Afghanistan and their vital interests without the participation of the legal representative of the Government of Afghanistan, which the DRA Government resolutely and firmly rejects. Nobody has the right to discuss matters concerning Afghanistan or make any decisions in this regard in the absence of the true representative of the Afghan people, that is to say, the representative of the DRA Government. The DRA Government once again declares that the world press reports that the Ottawa gathering was held in an atmosphere full of contradictions and sharp economic and political contradictions between its participants. The United States is unjustly pressuring its allies by trying to impose on them decisions in the interest of multinational American corporations and the American military industrial complex.

The aim of all these efforts is to divert world public attention from the serious economic and social problems in the West: economic recession, severe inflation, unemployment and the violation of human rights. The brutalities of the British authorities in Northern Ireland and the cruel operation against unemployed youths in large English cities are but a few examples.

The leaders of the seven major capitalist countries are trying to interfere in the domestic affairs of our country and discuss topics and subjects which are not their concern.

NEW TIMES CALLS EEC PROPOSAL 'UNACCEPTABLE'

BK271458 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 12 Jul 81 p 2

[Editorial: "EEC Proposal--An Unacceptable Affront"]

[Text] The mythical nature of the "Afghan issue" of imperialist invention has found yet another eloquent proof in the EEC proposal for its "settlement." For, according to the rulers of Western Europe, it is an issue that can be settled, believe it or not, without the participation of any legitimate representatives of the Afghan people and their sovereign state.

The EEC at its Luxembourg session has hatched the idea of an "international conference" on the "Afghan issue," which will exclude the government of the Afghan nation. If this is an "initiative," as it has been described, it is obviously only one for a perpetuation of the issue of the West's own creation.

Obviously, too, the proposal aims at the enlargement and intensification of the interference of imperialism with its hegemonist and reactionary allies in tow in the internal affairs of revolutionary Afghanistan. The "international conference" envisaged will be concerned less with the international aspects of the situation around the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan than with the historic developments inside this country that have put it on the road to rapid national and social advance.

The EEC is not merely speaking for itself. Behind its proposal can be heard the voice of its master. The proposal is only the logical political sequel to the earlier NATO militarist statement which bore the unmistakable imprint of Washington's insidious pressure. It fits totally in with the general world outlook and the specific policy on Afghanistan pronounced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his government of cold war crusaders.

Hypocrisy is blatant enough of the viewpoint that focuses on the presence of limited Soviet contingents in Afghanistan that came here at the request of a legitimate Government of the DRA to help the country ward off external independence and which is blind to the presence of scores of counterrevolutionary camps openly harboured on Pakistan's territory and aided by Western patrons.

It is hypocrisy abounding and perhaps unprecedented in the history of international relations when a U.S. president announces as state policy a plan to arm the counterrevolutionaries on a larger scale and when Pakistan is actually offered a military bonanza on the platter in violation of Washington's own formal norms for such a transaction and when added [to] all this is a declaration by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, in Beijing, that the imperialists and hegemonists had agreed to "extend" anti-Afghan "cooperation."

The brazenness of the EEC proposal is a direct corollary to that of the political backdrop set by the Washington warlords. The character of the proposal is the same as that of the move for an "international conference" on Kampuchea without the participation of the popular government of that country, which has overthrown the Pol Pot clique only to have to cope with the continued and concerted imperialist hegemonist provocations.

The brazenness is all the greater for the fact that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is a sovereign state with a government recognized by so many countries and staunchly supported by all the progressive nations, that it is a member of the Nonaligned Movement, and of the United Nations. The "conference" idea casts all accepted norms of international conduct to the cords with unconcealed contempt.

It is a provocative proposal because it ignores intently the proposals of the Government of the DRA of May 14, 1980. The latter, while offering dialogues with neighbours, made it clear that questions affecting the interests of Afghanistan cannot be discussed and even less resolved without the participation of the DRA Government or bypassing it.

It is an affront to all nations and governments, especially of the nonaligned world, which had supported the eminently reasonable and realistic proposals for a settlement of the situation around the DRA made by the Soviet Union from the high rostrum of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The DRA proposals are in the main for negotiations between Afghanistan and its neighbors, first of all Pakistan and Iran, and for securing of guarantees for any agreement from the USSR and the U.S. Pakistan's initial reaction was reportedly not negative, but Islamabad later let imperialist pressures prevail over its independent judgement.

But it should have become increasingly clear to all concerned that there is no way for a true and lasting settlement of the situation around Afghanistan except through a broad dialogue and with the participation of the Government of the DRA.

KILLING OF FOREIGN-BACKED 'TERRORIST' ANNOUNCED

LD262212 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Excerpts] Here is an announcement by the country's security authorities:

As is known to our compatriots, a few months ago a large number of terrorist and murderous individuals belonging to the band of Golboddin [Hezbi Islami leader in Peshawar] were captured with substantial documents proving their spying. They were captured as a result of security authorities' operations in Kabul city and in the country's provinces and were put under investigation in accordance with the DRA basic principles and revolutionary legality. During the investigation a number of others were arrested in accordance with the dictates of the law.

By possessing forged identity cards and forged (?documents) and by assuming various disguises, Hamidollah, the leader of the band in the country, covertly continued his terrorist and counterrevolutionary activities, and escaped to Pakistan in order to avoid the security authorities, staying for a period at the side of Golboddin. He thought he would escape the [words indistinct] of the country's security authorites. But he was subsequently dispatched to our country once again by the most dark reactionary circles in Pakistan and his masters, the officials of the develish espionage organization CIA, who thought that the manhunt for him by the security authorites had slackened and relaxed; he again continued criminal and antipeople's actions.

This professional murderer and terrorist, unaware of the fact that he was being followed, made an assassination attempt a few nights ago by shooting at one of the revolution guards in the area between Taymani and Khayrkhana Road. The security force surrounded him and he was shot dead as he tried to resist the security authorities.

Terrorist bands, under the leadership of this professional murderer, were organizing intimidations and terrorizing Kabul city against the innocent people of our country. All terrorist bands linked with these (?groups) were arrested and put under intensive investigation. The trial will be in the near future and they will be punished for their actions.

The confessions of the persons for these terrorist actions are revealed to alert the security authorities to the arrest of these elements. The terror and murder of innocent and defenseless people, who left behind orphan children, young wives and suffering mothers, were carried out by these merciless terrorists and professional murderers. Some of their victims are: 1) Zaynoddin, a Sarandoy private; 2) (?Wali) Yosufi, deputy minister of higher education; 3) Khan Qara Bafhi, a singer in radio television 4) (Shaur), director of the Karta-e Parwan secondary school; 5) Habibollah, son of Gholam Hayder, director of Sherpur school; 6) 'Abdol Matin, son of Ghawsoddin, governor of the Ramak subdistrict, Ghazni Province; 7) 'Aadel Zormati, director of Kabul municipality ward; 8) Major Sher Aqa; 9) Mohammad, son of Safdar; 10) [name indistinct] and a number of other political murders.

REBEL LEADER ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR INSURGENT COUNCIL

NC271642 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 Jul (MENA) -(Sabghah Allah Mujadidi), the leader of the National Front for the Rescue of Afghanistan, has said that the formation of a consultative council is expected to be announced in the next 3 months. The council will draw up plans and policies to which all Afghan organizations will be committed in confronting the continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

In a statement to MENA, (Mujadidi) said that it has been suggested that the council, which will undertake supervision of all Afghan rebel activity, should have between 250 and 300 members representing all 28 Afghan provinces, tribal chieftains and military organizations.

(Mujadid) added that the Afghan strugglers are performing better than last year because they have obtained new antitank and antiaircraft weapons, planes and a number of guns from (Kota) Province, near the Pakistani border.

Referring to the aid that the Afghan orgnizations are receiving, (Mujadid) said that they do not meet more than 10 percent of their needs. He added that the Afghan strugglers are facing a food supply crisis. He said the number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan has increased by about 2.5 million.

Speaking about the proposal to convene a European conference to solve the Afghan problem, he said: We are not prepared to reach a direct understanding with the Soviet Union, but we do not oppose friendly and peace-loving countries trying to negotiate with the Soviet Union. As for the results, we will accept what we want to accept and reject what we want to reject.

Speaking about the efforts that are being made to unify the Afghan opposition organizations, (Mujadidi) said: Three fronts have recently joined in a unified organization called the Islamic Union for the Struggler [Al-Ittihad Al-Islami Lilmujahidin]. He said that the three fronts, namely, the National Front for the Rescue of Afghanistan, the Islami Inqilab Movement and the Mahaz Milli Islami Movement are currently holding contacts with the other fronts to get them to join the union so as to make it a political union including all opposition fronts.

OFFICIALS CONCERNED BY GANDHI'S TALPATTY CLAIM

BK280210 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] Bangladesh today expressed surprise and concern over the reported remark by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi claiming sovereignty over the disputed South Talpatty Island. The Indian prime minister has reportedly told newsmen recently that there is no dispute over the island and that India has no intention of surrendering it since it is an Indian territory.

When the attention of the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry was drawn to a Reuter report quoting Mrs Gandhi and also broadcast by the New Delhi Radio, the Foreign Office spokesman said it constituted a negation of commitment and understanding reached between two countries.

The spokesman maintained that it is a violation of the solemn pledge pledged by the Government of India made both at the summit and foreign ministers level to settle its problems peacefully and at an early date.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed regret that at a time when the question of the legal ownership of the newly emerged island at the estuary of border river Haribhanga is under negotiation and concrete efforts are being taken to defuse the situation, such remarks are unfortunate. He expressed surprise that India, a nonaligned nation committed to peaceful settlement of disputes, should opt to establish its claim contrary to the fundamental principles of the UN Charter and nonalignment prohibiting the acquisition of territory by use of force. The spokesman stated that despite India's unilateral action and continued provocative activities on and around the island, which has been repeatedly protested, Bangladesh has throughout exercised exemplary restraint. He reiterated that it has been made clear to India that according to all reliable information and data sent to India the island belongs to Bangladesh. The spokesman said Bangladesh does not believe that the use of force can provide a lasting solution to any problem and added that it will not be deflected in her determination from seeking all peaceful and lawful means to find out its fair and just solution. He expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries would be put back on the right course through appropriate action by India to remove the causes of present tension and strain. The Foreign Office spokesman stressed the need for creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence conducive to resumption of fruitful talks to resolve the dispute speedily and peacefully.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION SCHEDULE CHANGES ANNOUNCED

BK271724 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] After the announcement of the schedule of elections to the office of president, many political parties have been demanding the shifting of the date of elections. In this context, the election commission held a meeting today with the chief election commissioner in the chair to consider the various aspects of the matter.

The commission reviewed the preparations so far made for the conduct of the elections and found that the date of the elections could be shifted from the 31st of September to the 15th of October 1981 without causing any serious dislocation of the arrangements. So, the date of the presidential elections has been fixed on the 15th of October 1981.

According to the revised schedule, the nomination papers now (?should have) to be filed on the 7th of September, and the scrutiny will be held on the 8th. The last day for withdrawal of candidature will be the 17th of September.

ATTEMPTS TO POLITICIZE COUP TRIAL ALLEGED

BK271720 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] A handout issued in Dacca tonight says despite assurances given by the government for the publication of a white paper on the inquiry report and the trial proceedings of the general court martial at Chittagong, certain interested persons are trying to politicize the case by creating misgivings in the public mind. According to the army act, the convening authority of the court martial, for reasons of military security and defense, may not allow civilian counsels for the accused persons.

The handout says in the 17 June trial, civil lawyers were allowed because civilians were also involved in the abortive coup, whereas in the present trial at Chittagong only army personnel are being tried for a purely military offence of causing mutiny under section 31 of the army act.

The (?handout) points out [words indistinct] laws under the army act are also the laws of the land. In the circumstances of special interests of the country and the armed forces in particular, all conscientious people, the handout says, should refrain from giving statements which could create misgivings in the public mind and thus jeopardize the proceedings of the trial.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR LONDON 24 JUL

BK250731 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Mohammad Shamsul Haq has said Bangladesh will stress the imperative need for closer cooperation between north and south at the forthcoming Mexico minisummit. He was talking to newsmen at Dacca Airport last night before his departure for London on his way to Mexico to attend the preparatory meeting of the foreign ministers for the minisummit on North-South dialogue. He hoped that the informal character of the forthcoming minisummit will lead to a clear perception of the global economic crises and of the interrelationship and interdependence of rich and poor nations.

During his short stopover in London, the foreign minister will hold bilateral talks with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. He will fly to New York from London on Wednesday [29 July] to attend the meeting of foreign ministers of 14 developing countries in connection with preparatory meetings preceding the minisummit. (?They will) also hold talks with the UN secretary general.

ORDINANCE ON STRIKES, SUMMARY TRIAL ISSUED

BK270940 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] The president has promulgated an ordinance empowering the government to prohibit strikes in any essential service. Called the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, it was signed by the president last night.

Under the ordinance, the government can ban strikes in an essential service initially for 6 months, and it may be extended further for another period not exceeding 6 months. The services in which the strikes can be banned are railways, post and telegraph, telephone, ports, aerodromes, airports, banking, production and refining of petroleum, supply and distribution of petroleum and petroleum products, public conservancy, sanitation and hospitals under the central government and defense undertakings.

The ordinance also empowers the government to declare as essential any service connected with matters on which Parliament can make laws.

The ordinance defines what amounts to a strike.

Incitement and instigation of persons to resort to illegal strikes have also been made punishable and liable for disciplinary action. Offenses under the ordinance are cognizable and subject to summary trials. It also provides for punishment with imprisonment or fines for starting or taking part in any illegal strike. Besides, the offender will also be liable for disciplinary action, including dismissal.

A bill will be introduced in the ensuing session of Parliament to replace the ordinance. The proposed new act will be valid for a year.

GANDHI ON U.S. ARMS TO PAKISTAN, OTHER ISSUES

BK261302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has said the U.S. arms supply to Islamabad cannot be viewed in isolation as an issue between India and Pakistan. It is to be considered in the larger context of how the United States views the situation.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar today at the end of her 3-day visit to Kashmir, Mrs Gandhi said it is dangerous for Pakistan also.

In reply to a question whether the American aid will affect the process of normalization of relations with Pakistan, the prime minister said it is like walking on a razor's edge. She said we must be prepared for any eventuality in such a situation.

Mrs Gandhi pointed out that she had taken the initiative to improve relations both with China and Pakistan. As regards China, she said, after years of hostility, friendship cannot be achieved in a day or two.

About the Bangladesh claim on Moore Island, Mrs Gandhi said it has been made clear that the island falls within India's territorial waters.

When asked to comment on the West Bengal finance minister's statement that she could not review the performance of the state, Mrs Gandhi said, what is there in the Constitution which prevents the center from doing so? Mrs Gandhi said that she discussed only developmental matters with State Chief Minister Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah.

The prime minister is leaving for New Delhi this evening.

CONGRESS-I SEEKS FRATERNAL TIES WITH CPSU

BK231155 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 19 Jul 81

[By Kirit Bhaumik]

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Jul--The Congress-I has made a move for forging a "fraternal relationship" with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

An emissary of Mrs. Gandhi, on a recent visit to Moscow, made the initial probings about the possibility of having formal fraternal ties with the CPSU in his discussions with the Soviet leaders. He has reported back to Mrs. Gandhi that the response was "quite encouraging."

Congress-I ties with communist parties abroad are not unusual. Ties exist with the North Korean and Mongolian parties. A Congress-I delegation was invited to the North Korean party congress last year. Discussions for formal ties with the Italian and Japanese communist parties are in progress.

However, more than usual significance is being attached to the Congress-I move for links with the CPSU. It is seen here as a followup of the formation of the "friends of the Soviet Union," a cultural organisation seeking to take the place of the CPI-sponsored Indo-Soviet Cultural Society.

Although the Soviet response to the formation of the friends of the Soviet Union was not as wholehearted as the Congress-I would have liked--Moscow recognises both the organisations--Mrs. Gandhi apparently wants to pursue this line to its logical end by having a party-to-party relationship with the CPSU.

Fraternal ties with the CPSU will also strengthen the "socialist" image of the Congress-I, particularly in the Third World. This is perhaps what the party is striving for.

SPOKESMAN DENIES GANDHI-MURTAZA MEETING REPORTS

BK280715 Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Reports that Mr Murtaza Bhutto, son of executed Pakistani Prime Minister Z.A. Bhutto, had recently met Prime Minister Indira Gandhi were described as "totally false and baseless" by an official spokesman on Friday [24 Jul], reports PTI.

According to a report, Mr Murtaza Bhutto had passed through New Delhi on 13 July on his way to Kabul. No confirmation of the report is available.

'EXTREMISTS' BLOW UP BRIDGE IN MANIPUR 24 JUL

BK251617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] In Manipur, a bridge across the Nambul River was blown up by extremists last night. A police vehicle was completely damaged in the ambush, but no one was injured.

This is the first time a bridge in the Imphal area has been blown up by extremists.

MEGHALAYA TO SET UP ADDITIONAL BORDER POSTS

BK250822 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] The Meghalaya Government has decided to set up 22 additional checkposts along the border with Bangladesh to deal with the problem of illegal infiltration.

A press note issued in Shillong says that the state government has decided to approach the center for grant of additional financial assistance for implementation of the scheme. Earlier, the state government had set up 19 checkposts.

INTERIOR MINISTER UPDATES ELECTION FIGURES

LD271925 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Interview with Interior Minister Mohammad Mahdavi-Kani, on latest figures for presidential and Majlis elections--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Mahdavi-Kani] The result of the presidential election has been very satisfactory. The total number of votes cast was 14,642,252, of which 12,900,619 were for Mr Raja'i, 626,301 were for Mr Sheybani, 401,035 were for Mr Parvaresh, 252,349 were for Mr Asgar-Owladi. There were 461,948 void votes. These figures are for the constituencies at home, not including the number of votes cast abroad. If those votes are taken into account, they would be a little higher.

[Question] Is this the final result?

[Answer] It is the final result for the votes cast in the country. Abroad, there are possibly another 50,000-60,000.

BALLOT COUNTING IN MAJLIS ELECTIONS CONTINUES

LD261422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Summary] The director of the election headquarters, Suleymani, has given our correspondent the latest figures on vote counting for the Majlis byelections.

[Begin Suleymani recording] Out of a total of 46 constituencies where elections were to have taken place, three constituencies, Mahshahr, Bandar-e 'Abbas and Arak had to cancel theirs. Of the 43 remaining constituencies, preliminary results from Tehran, Now Shahr, and Miando'ab have not yet been announced.

Of the 40 constituencies whose results have been communicated to the election headquarters, in the 29 constituencies of Mashhad, Ardestan, Na'in, Najafabad, Naqadeh, Torbat-e Jam, Qorveh, (Felaverjan), (Qochan), Shushtar, Masjed-e Soleyman, Bostanabad, (Shar-e Kord), Boyuz Ahmad, Yazd, (Bahar-e Hamedan), Nur, Tafresh, Zabol, Maku, Lar, Kalegar, Esfahan, Ramhormoz, Firuzabad, Malavi, Bushehr, Eqlid and (Delfan), the deputies have been duly elected, getting the required majority.

Elections in 11 constituencies have been indecisive and will go to a second ballot. These are the constituencies of (Esfrayen), Kermanshah, Nehavand, (Toyserkan), (Eizeh), Langerud, Rud Baran, Andimeshk, Paveh, Dow Rud and Sari.

As we said before, the constituency of Kermanshah has three seats in the Majlis. Only one candidate has acquired the majority required. The other four candidates will go into the second round.

6 Results Reported

LD251159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Interview given by the sociopolitical deputy of the Interior Ministry, Mr Sorureddin, on 25 July to Central News Unit correspondent concerning the latest results of the Majlis byelections]

[Excerpt] [Sorureddin] The results of the Majlis byelections are known for some constituencies. So far six deputies have been elected with an absolute majority: for Na'in, Mr Tayyeb (?Mehri) [votes not given]; for Zabol, Mr Hoseyni-Tabatab'i, (?alias) Hasan 'Aqa, who received 20,147 votes; for Firuzabad, 'Ali Akbar Rezvani, who received 48,076 votes; for Felavarjan, Mr Seyyed Baqer Hashemi, who received 29,413 votes; for Ramhormoz, Mr Hoseyn Bakhshi, who received 18,562 votes; and for Yazd, Mr Mohammad 'Ali Saduqi, who received 36,896 votes.

After their competence is investigated by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, they will begin to serve their constituents, God willing.

[Correspondent] What are the results for Tehran? Would you please explain to us?

[Sorureddin] Vote counting in Tehran has not yet ended; results usually are not announced until the counting is completed. With the efforts of our brothers and sisters, we hope, God willing, to be able to prepare results for Tehran by tomorrow evening; I think that the results for other cities will also be known by then.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Further Results

LD252040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit and PARS report that the results of the byelections for the Majlis in a number of constituencies are as follows:

City of Esfahan: total of votes cast--306,145. Mr (Seyyed Mohammad Gharavi) was elected by 237,433 votes as Majlis deputy.

City of Torbat-e Jam and (Tibad): A total of 60,862 votes was cast. Mr Ezzatollah Dehqanpur was elected Majlis deputy by 58,738 votes.

Bostanabad constituency: Mr (Mir Ghaffar Sa'adnezhad) was elected Majlis deputy with 11,488 votes of 18,942 votes cast.

City of Nur: Mr Ahmad Nateq Nuri was elected deputy by 37,604 votes of a total of 64,609 votes cast.

Constituency of Alvar (Garmsiri), (Malavi) and (Simiyan), under the city of Khorramabad's jurisdiction: Mr (Seyyed Nureddin Rahimi) was elected deputy by 53,734 of a total of 56,554 votes cast.

Hamadan's constituency of Kabud Rahang and Bahar: Mr (Seyyed Kazem Afshami) was elected Majlis deputy by 81,756 votes.

City of (Shahr-e Kord): Of a total of 57,958 votes cast Mr Mojtaba Saki was elected by 45,067 votes.

City of Mashhad: Of a total of 386,654 votes cast, Mr Hassan Ghaffari Fard and Mr Seyyed Reza Kamyab were elected by 314,748 votes and 293,688 votes respectively.

Constituency of (Karibar) under Ahar's jurisdiction: Mr (Mottaleb Vahid) was elected deputy by 16,153 votes of a total of 21,690 votes cast.

Constituency of (Selseleh-e Delpan): Mr (Sheykh 'Ali Kazemi Momehzandi) was elected by 21,729 votes of 36,853 votes cast.

AFP: PAPERS NAME BAHONAR AS NEXT PRIME MINISTER

NC271245 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 27 Jul (AFP)--The next prime minister of Iran, after Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's certain election as president, was tipped here today to be Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Javad Bahonar, a former pupil of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Two Iranian newspapers, both close to the dominant Islamic Republican Party, named Mr Bahonar, currently education minister and the secretary-general of the IRP since Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti's death in a bomb blast at party headquarters on June 28.

Meanwhile, observers agreed that the most interesting aspect of the presidential election, with almost all votes counted, was a marked difference in support for Mr Raja'i in the provinces and in the capital, where a large quantity of blank votes were counted.

Overall, Mr Raja'i has scored over 88 percent of votes. But in Tehran 118,000 blank votes were handed in, while a full 300,000 people voted against Mr Raja'i.

Observers interpreted this move, when the three alternative candidates had specifically called for voters to back Mr Raja'i, as a warning to the ruling regime that people had reservations about its policies.

NABAVI ON DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

LD271355 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Report on news conference given by Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, attended by domestic and foreign media reporters]

[Text] Regarding the attacks both on Iran's embassies and consulates abroad and on the revolution's supporters in Western countries, the government spokesman said that this problem is part and parcel of the present composition of Iranians residing in Europe and the United States. This is because most of the fugitives and counterrevolutionaries are in those countries and, with the cooperation of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], they are indulging in such actions. Western governments are also in favor of the counterrevolutionaries, because our formal protests against these actions do not have much effect. We should be able to defend ourselves. We know that the Iranian students abroad who support the revolution are resisting these incitements.

Regarding Bani-Sadr's claim that he is the president, the government spokesman said this is like the claims that the shah and Bakhtiar made. The difference is that they considered the country to be without a government, but Bani-Sadr says: "I am the head of the Iranian Government." In a letter that Bani-Sadr recently wrote to Rajavi [leader of the Mojahedin-e Khalq], he assigned Rajavi the task of forming a council or front for resistance that could, so to speak, replace the legislative council. In fact, Bani-Sadr has appointed him as prime minister. On the other hand, Qasemlu [leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party] has asked Bani-Sadr to join him in Kordestan. These things show Bani-Sadr's true stance.

Nabavi added that since the minigroups think that Bani-Sadr has a popular base, they accept him. However, they should know that Bani-Sadr received only 600 votes in the recent elections; even the opposition to the Islamic Republic did not cast their blank and disqualified votes for him.

Regarding Saddam's request for a cease-fire and his propaganda concerning this subject, the government spokesman said that this includes saying that Israel is supplying arms to Iran. They wish to pretend that Saddam is seeking peace and that Iran does not accept a cease-fire, because they do not want to fight Israel.

Regarding the export of the revolution, a question which was asked by a Western reporter, Nabavi said that you could find the meaning of exporting the revolution among the world oppressed. Attention is toward the revolution; they become anxious in face of blows and happy in face of the revolution's successes. The Islamic revolution has shown the world its ideological influence and presence. Of course, a few governments support us. In addition, the Islamic Republic's relations with the liberation movements show that this revolution is interested in the fate of oppressed and enslaved nations.

Regarding the continuation of the operation of the Iran-Japan petrochemical plant, the government spokesman said that the government has decided that work on the implementation of the project should be completed. The government intends to dispatch a high-ranking delegation to Japan to discuss this matter within the framework of economic relations between the two countries.

Addressing the supporters of the groups who oppose the Islamic Republic, the government spokesman said: We should inform you that your leaders' analyses are wrong; they do not explain the facts and the issues. Your leaders' sole aim is to take control of the government. Now, by means of assassinations--your leaders, with their actions that you carry out, are creating such hatred for you that even if society were without a government, no one would come to you. Their aim is to increasingly inflict losses and blows on the Islamic Republic because, in their analyses, they have reached the conclusion that even the return of the United States of America would be better than the Islamic Republic. If this happened, they think that they would take control of the government. In any case, we ask you to give it more thought because we know that most of you are earnest.

NABAVI ON ELECTION, PILOT DEFECTION, PLANE CRASH

LD271324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Interview with Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, conducted by Tehran radio correspondent on 27 July, presumably in Tehran--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] In view of the fact that the recent elections and the subsequent government that will be formed will be a victory for the imam's path and a defeat for the opponents of the regime, could you please comment on the position that the opponents will take both on the future government and on the future of the Islamic Republic?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The election victory was political; it was an extremely important victory. However, after this victory we need a military victory as well. Right now the opposition groups have formed an alliance of armed groups, intending to overthrow this regime by force. It is all the same to them whether the elected president won 13 million or 14 million votes, or whether our institutions are legal or illegal. What they are doing is resorting to use of arms against the whole people. The reason they were exerting pressure during the elections was that they wished to rob the regime of its legality, thus stopping the elections. They began by resorting to boycotting them, then they resorted to threats. Afterwards, they used terror and created panic. However, despite all these measures, the elections held were quite impressive.

Now they are trying to disparage the elections by claiming that the people were coerced into voting. As I said, they tried to rob the regime of its legality, so that they could promote someone like Bani-Sadr, a scarecrow, as the legal president. However, their real intention is to overthrow the Islamic Republic's system through armed struggle. Consequently, our electoral victory does not mean that they will stop their activities: It is only the beginning of their plots. Despite the fact that we are achieving more and more military victories internally, these victories are not yet complete. Naturally, more blows must be dealt to the half-alive body of the counterrevolution, breathing its final breath. It is only then that we can claim to have put an end to these plots.

[Question] Mr Nabavi, the Council of Ministers has proposed short-term measures to improve the country's economy. Do you think the change of government will prevent the implementation of these measures or that other measures will be introduced?

[Answer] I do not believe these measures will be stopped; they might, rather, be expedited.

At the moment we have two programs. One is a long-term program dealing with the economy of the Islamic Republic and concerning cooperatives. Then there is the short-term program to solve short-term economic problems. I believe that both series of programs will be implemented speedily.

[Mainly indistinct question dealing with the recent hijacking of a Boeing 707 to Cairo and with the Argentine plane that crashed in the USSR]

[Answer] Today's investigations have established that the pilot [who sought asylum in Egypt] was one of those involved in the coup d'etat [attempt] and who had spent some time in jail. Now he has sought asylum and taken refuge with As-Sadat [words indistinct].

As for the Argentine plane, a great deal of clamor was raised by the Western press; this is in line with the policy aimed at proving that Iran is colluding with Israel. As far as Israel is concerned, it does not mind this either, wishing to give the impression that Iran is purchasing arms from it; it has already made a similar claim. The bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor is part of this idea, that Israel is against Iraq and supports Iran. It was within this context that they claimed that the plane was carrying arms for Iran when it crashed. The fact of the matter is that we do charter some planes in Europe and other regions to ship goods for us, goods required by the country, war-stricken people, for the army as well as other sectors. This plane falls within the same category: It was a Swiss plane which was at the disposal of an Argentine company. It had unloaded its cargo. It was to cross the Turkish border, but at this point it either changed its route or was lured by Russian planes. At any rate, we do not know. The thing is that the Soviet Government has claimed it collided with a Russian plane and crashed.

[Question] So it has nothing to do with Iran?

[Answer] No, it has absolutely nothing to do with Iran. It was the Western press that made the allegation in order to prove our link with Israel [words indistinct].

ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS, BOMBINGS CONTINUE 27-28 JUL

Arrest of Mojahedin

LD271152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, two supporters of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], Mahmud Heydari and 'Abbas Kheradmand, who were trying to blow up the Islamic Republican Party's office in Chalus with Molotov cocktails, were arrested yesterday in Chalus by members of the revolution guards corps. They were handed over to the revolution guards corps in Now Shahr.

Khuzestan Bomber Arrested

GF271636 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] Farid Vadi'inezhad, a refugee and one of the people responsible for bombings in Khuzestan following the victory of the revolution, has been arrested in Bushehr.

Landlords Warned

GF271635 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Ultimatum issued by Fars governor general, Shiraz shar' magistrate and official in charge of the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Court, and Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps on 27 July]

[Text] In His exalted name. This is a stern ultimatum to owners of rental property.

All owners of such property, whether it be houses, apartments, warehouses, shops or other types, who have rented it to unknown individuals or have allowed its use without payment are given 3 days as of today, 27 July 1981, to immediately go to their [tenants] places of work or their residences and inspect the property closely. If they find banned or hidden items, they should immediately report this to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, telephone Nos 45952 or 23584. If after the 3-day period a place is discovered which (?turns out to be) a site of activities by the treacherous minigroups connected to the United States or the Soviet Union, the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Court will deal firmly with the owner of the property and may confiscate it.

The Muslim and ever-present people are also required to observe and report any suspicious activities and comings and goings in their neighborhoods. Upon discovery of places of activity used by the decadent minigroups, they should call the above-mentioned telephone numbers.

[Signed] Shar' Magistrate and official in charge of the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Court Brujerdi, Fars Governor General Mohammad Nabi Habibi, Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Sa'adati Executed

LD271936 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Excerpt] In accordance with the verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tehran, Mohammad Reza Sa'adati, a member of the Central Committee of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], who was charged with participation in the martyrdom of Mohammad Kachu'i, the governor of Evin Prison, according to his own confession, through his contact with Kazem Afje'i, murderer of Martyr Mohammad Kachu'i; contacts with the monafeqin-e khalq central committee from prison; and continuing espionage activities while in prison, was sentenced to death. The sentence was carried out last night.

15 Mojahedin Executed

LD271850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] On orders from the Islamic Revolution Courts of Kerman, Gorgan, Urumiyeh, Amol and Sari, 15 monafeqin [Mojahedin] have been sentenced to death on charges of armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran. They include: Farzad Siani; Qodratollah Shahini; Saleh Khajeh; Abdollah Jond; Hoseyn Sarkhosh; Mohammad Seyyed Afsari; Rahmat Fallah; Bahman Khanpur; Mohammad Me'raj; Fa'efeh Bihonal Sa'id Salari; Kazem Kazeruni; Hoseyn Zeynabadi; Hoseyn Hoseynia; and Sohrab Shahdadnezhad. The sentences have been carried out.

Bomb Explosion

LD280906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Jul 81

[Text] Around 2100 last night, a relatively strong bomb exploded in front of the Shahr-e Tamasha cinema, in Enqelab Square. Quoting the spokesman for the Central Islamic Revolution Committee, a Central News Unit correspondent reported that as the result of this explosion, which damaged a section of the railing around Enqelab Square and destroyed a number of kiosks, a section of the cinema building was damaged, and one--or possibly two--passersby were killed in a horrible manner.

27 JUL COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION DETAILED

LD271131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Council of Ministers met this morning under Prime Minister Raja'i. The meeting opened with some recitals from the Koran. The prime minister and the minister of state for executive affairs started the meeting by raising such issues as presidential and Majlis elections and the positions of the regime's opponents.

The foreign minister referred to news agencies which linked the crash of the Argentine plane to the shipment of weapons to Iran from Israel the Usurper and recalled the lies presented by these agencies. He also alluded to the ever-increasing influence of the Islamic revolution among the various strata of Muslim people throughout the world and stressed the marking of Jerusalem Day, which could become the cornerstone of a genuine and decisive move toward uniting Muslims and retrieving holy Jerusalem from the Zionist occupiers.

Continuing its meeting, the Council of Ministers raised other issues relating to atmoic energy agreements and IBM computers. All of these issues were discussed and approved. Then a Ministry of Industries and Mines' proposal concerning a payment of 50 million rials to the country's scientific and industrial organization in order to assist inventors and researchers was approved in accordance with the current budget.

RAFSANJANI RECEIVES SFRY, GDR, CUBAN ENVOYS

LD252258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Yugoslav ambassador in Tehran met and conferred this afternoon with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsandjani at the latter's office. During this meeting, the Yugoslav envoy conveyed the greetings of his country's parlimentary speaker and expressed satisfaction and gratitude over the extension of relations between the two countries following the revolution, and called for further expansion of these relations and cooperation between the parliaments of Iran and Yugoslavia in the IPU.

In reply, the Majlis speaker thanked the Yugoslav envoy for Belgrade's assuming an independent policy and pursuing cooperation with Iran following the revolution. The Majlis speaker said the presence of 4 million Muslims in Yugoslavia is a suitable factor for ever-increasing relations between the two countries.

Following this meeting, the Majlis speaker received the GDR ambassador in Tehran. During this meeting, the GDR ambassador called for extending mutual relations in the political and economic spheres and extended an invitation fo Rafsanjani to visit the GDR.

In reply, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani accepted the invitation and thanked Germany for its postrevolution cooperation.

Following this meeting, Mr Rafsanjai recieved Cuba's charge d'affaires to Iran. During this meeting the cuban charge spoke of common elements in the Iranian and Cuban revolutions. He said that both countries are struggling and fighting against imperialism. The Cuban charge asked the Majlis speaker for the Iranian Majlis' participation in the IPU, which is a unifying factor among the member parliaments. The Cuban envoy also presented an invitation to the Majlis speaker to visit Cuba.

In reply, Mr Rafsanjani said: We are aware of Cuba's stand against imperialism. He added that the Iranian delegation to the IPU has been elected. Mr Rafsanjani also accepted the invitation to visit Cuba.

DEFENSE COUNCIL BRIEFED ON MILITARY SUCCESS

LD272201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council met this evening under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, together with other council members. The meeting discussed the situation on the war fronts and the confrontation between Islam's combatants and the blasphemous forces of Saddam at-Tikriti, and a report by the supervisor of the foundation for the war victims regarding reconstruction of the war refugees' housing. Certain decisions were adopted after being reviewed.

Following the session, the prime minister gave an interview to a PARS correspondent regarding the topics raised at the session. He said various reports regarding the situation on the western and southern fronts were brought up by the acting chief of the Joint Staff, the most important of which related to the [word indistinct] front adjacent to the Karkheh River. Fortunately, in today's operations our combative forces succeeded in forcing the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries to flee after staying for months on this front and having enjoyed certain fortifications.

The prime minister added that according to information received, in the course of operations today a large number of enemy troops were killed by our combatants and nearly 100 were taken prisoner. This is a great victory, more detailed information on which will be provided by the Joint Staff.

Regarding the second topic discussed, Mr Raja'i said it concerned the defense minister's report regarding logistical problems in the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which were raised and reviewed.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 581-582

581: 26 Jul Report

LD261813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Communique 581 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim compatriots: Here are some of the operations of the self-sacrificing combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the conditions on the battlefronts in the last 24 hours.

Yesterday exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued sporadically on most western fronts. On the Marivan front, as a result of the artillery fire of the ground forces on Iraqi posts in the Panjwin sector, one post was completely destroyed and another was damaged.

On the Ilam front, the gendarmerie combatants brought enemy positions under heavy-weapon fire, killing approximately 20 Iraqi personnel and destroying 1 tanker, 1 command jeep, 1 106-mm gun and 5 trenches and foxholes.

Exchange of fire continued on the Nowsud front. Enemy mortar fire killed two small boys in Nowsud. The combatants of the ground forces on the fronts to the west of Dezful fired with heavy artillery and mortars, crushing enemy positions, destroying 2 mortars and 1 vehicle of the enemy and killing or wounding more than 20 enemy personnel.

On the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts, the combatants of the ground forces returned enemy fire, firing on enemy positions and destroying 2 tanks, approximately 20 trenches and foxholes, 2 observation posts, 3 ammunition dumps, 2 vehicles and 3 machinegun emplacements.

On the Mahshahr-Abadan fronts, while silencing enemy fire, they destroyed five trenches, one bulldozer, one ammunition dump and one observation post of the enemy.

On the Abadan front, the combatants of the gendarmerie returned enemy fire, destroying 5 machinegun emplacements and trenches and 1 observation post of the enemy and killing or wounding approximately 18 enemy personnel.

The navy combatants, during their operations yesterday, fired on enemy positions on the Khuninshahr front, destroying two machinegun emplacements, one ammunition dump and several trenches, and killing or wounding several enemy personnel.

Yesterday, as on previous days, the city of Abadan came under enemy artillery and heavy-weapon fire, as a result of which houses and government installations were damaged.

Yesterday four aggressive Iraqi planes, which intended to attack several border towns in the south of the country, confronted the intense antiaircraft fire of the local combatants and fled.

During the battles on 23-25 July, 12 of the best personnel of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred in the defense of Islam and the integrity of the homeland. May their spirits be happy and their memories dear.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

582: Successes, Casualties

LD271914 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Communique 582 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In his exalted name. Over the past 25 hours exchange of fire took place on most of the war fronts. In the Dezful region, 16 enemy vehicles which were moving from (Seyyed Taher) toward (Ebadiyeh) were destroyed by the artillery fire of the ground forces. Our artillery and mortar fire also destroyed one artillery piece and an ammunition dump belonging to the aggressors in the Shomariyeh and (Ramziyeh) region. In the same region, in another operation, 1 enemy tank, 2 troop carriers, 2 ammunition dumps and 2 light vehicles were destroyed and 43 of Saddam's troops were killed and wounded.

On the (Reqabiyeh) pass, our heavy weapons set ablaze an enemy ammunition dump and one tank and its crew were destroyed. Meanwhile, our artillery units brought under fire Iraqi Army positions on the various Dezful fronts, silencing the enemy's fire. On the Abadan-Khunishahr front, the fire of our valiant combatants destroyed 25 foxholes and trenches, 5 light- and heavy-weapon emplacements, 2 observation posts and 2 troop assembly stations, 1 enemy tank and 1 vehicle were damaged. Meanwhile, two of Saddam's ammunition dumps and one fuel storage depot were also set ablaze. The artillery fire of the ground forces on enemy positions between (Vaseliyeh) and (Ziadiyeh) inflicted effective losses and casualties on the enemy.

Today, the cowardly enemy, in retaliation for his repeated defeats, once again directed artillery fire on residential areas in Abadan, causing material damage and casualties. On the Mahshahr-Abadan and Darkhovin-As-Sulaymaniyah fronts, exchange of artillery fire continued over the past 24 hours.

The fire of our combative forces on the enemy's tank, mortar and artillery positions silenced the aggressors and several of their machinegun emplacements were damaged.

On 25 July, 12 combatants from the ground forces and 1 air force fighter--their blood being the cost of victory--treaded the path followed by all the Hoseynians throughout history and handed over the blood-stained banner of struggle against the enemies of Islam to others to carry. May their mission be eternal.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

583: Enemy Losses

LD272200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Communique 583 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Following the conspicuous success of [words indistinct] today by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Karkheh Kur and (Tarrasht), our herdic combatants, in addition to capturing and killing a number of Saddam's troops, succeeded in destroying or capturing a large quantity of equipment and ammunition belonging to the aggressors.

The list of these is as follows: prisoners, 88 in number, including a lieutenant colonel commanding a company; wheeled [as heard] vehicles, 24; command wheeled troop carriers, 2; BMP-1 [as heard] troop carriers, 7; tracer [not further identified] 1; bulldozers, 4; leaders, 2; tanks, 25; 105-mm French gun, 1; Kalashnikov rifles, 74; mines, more than 2,000 units; and large quantities of personal and kitchen equipment and articles.

In addition, in these proud operations 6 of our brave combatants were martyred and 25 were wounded, mostly with superficial wounds. Two of our BMP-1's [as heard] were also slightly damaged.

Congratulations to the imam and the nation on the victory of the combatants of Islam; may more victories come to them.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

LE MONDE'S ROULEAU VIEWS IRAN'S INTERNAL SITUATION

Part I

PM241537 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Jul 81 pp 1, 5

[Part I of Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Iran: Revolution and Counterrevolution. I--The Siege"]

[Text] Tehran--Paradoxes abound in Imam Khomeyni's Iran. Is it an invaded country in the throes of a masked civil war? Is the population living in fear of attacks and the gallows? Is the economy teetering on the brink of collapse? Yes and no, depending on where you look. The picture of catastrophe which most foreign visitors have--businessmen, technicians and journalists--begins to fade at Mehrabad Airport. Everything then strikes them as extremely normal.

After a 9-month suspension due to the war, three major airlines, Air France, Lufthansa and Iranair, are once again serving the capital. Indeed the capital has not been bombed once since the fall. Correctly dressed policemen--light blue shirt, black tie and trousers--have replaced the untidy pasdaran (revolution guards) who formerly mounted guard at the airport. The customs officers are polite, although extremely vigilant.

Gasoline is rationed, but automobile traffic is as dense as it was before the war. People "manage" to buy additional coupons, and that tends to indicate that the shortage is a fallacy.

This is also true of everyday consumer products, which are also rationed but which can readily be bought at subsidized prices--possible if you are prepared to stand in line--or at the going rate of a market which is not "black" but "parallel" since it is lawful. There are no shortages in Tehran for those who are prepared to pay the asking price. The stalls in the bazaar or on Mossadeq Avenue are crammed with goods, T-shirts from Hong Kong carrying Bobby Sands' name and French perfumes.

American cigarettes--carrying an Iraqi trademark--are sold by auction for the equivalent of Fr10-15 per packet. There is a flourishing contraband trade between the two warring countries. Why not? Tehran and Baghdad have not officially declared war on each other and still maintain diplomatic relations, in theory of course. On the other hand, for equally incomprehensible reasons Iran has broken off relations with Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Morocco, accused of supporting the "Iraqi aggressor...."

But in fact, where is this war which is described in Tehran as "impossible to find?" Although international opinion has lost interest in it, the Iranians feel its effects deeply. Even when the city is brilliantly illuminated by multicolored garlands on holidays, you notice at the doors of modest houses the ("hejles"), the mortuary chapels, decorated with lights to honor the sacrifice of the "martyrs;" some 30,000 people--men, women and children--have been killed or wounded on the battlefields or during the bombing raids. More than 1 million (the figure of 2 million is sometimes cited) have been forced to flee the war zones to live under canvas in camps on the charity of the state of their fellow citizens.

However, the fighting is not extensive or spectacular. Give or take a few curves, the frontline is the same as it was in November. Despite the constant ebb and flow of the armies, the balance of forces has not been broken along a border over a strip of territory between 5 and 30 km wide. Some units are still fighting against the snipers just outside Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr); others have been marking time since mid-October just a few kilometers from Abadan, which they are besieging on three sides. The attacks launched against the strategic base of Dezful have been defeated. Further north, Qasr-e Shirin, a border city which controls the road leading to Baghdad, had been turned into a fortress which the Iranians will, however, not be able to win back in the foreseeable future.

War on Several Fronts

The Iranian forces are clearly capable of resisting the invaders but not of expelling them from the Islamic Republic's territory. They are inadequately equipped and too scattered to be capable of launching a large-scale offensive. Indeed, they are fighting on several fronts: against the Iraqi Army in the south and west, and further north against Abdorrahman Qasemlu's Kurdish guerrillas who enjoy multifaceted aid from Baghdad. Despite the very marked political and military decline in Mr Qasemlu's party, particularly in Kermanshah and Kordestan Provinces, the guerrillas are making the Tehran forces pay and are sometimes replaced by the Iraqi soldiers.

At the other end of the country, in Sistan va Baluchestan, a guerrilla war similar to that in Kordestan seems to be developing. Armed groups led by former khans and sardars (feudal or tribal chiefs) are launching an increasing number of attacks, burning the crops on land newly occupied by poor peasants and killing pasdaran and policemen. Regular army units had to be sent in in May following an attack in which 33 members of the forces of order were killed. According to the authorities, the number of guerrillas, now put at around 1,000, should increase to 7,000 before the end of this year. The authorities also point out that recruits are now being trained in a camp on the other side of the border, in Pakistan, under the supervision of American instructors.

Whatever the facts, the situation seems threatening. The Baluchis feel alien in their own country on three counts--ethnic, religious (most are Sunni Muslims) and political. Sistanva Baluchestan, reputed be the "vendee of the Islamic Republic," remains one of the strongholds of the royalist movement which, under cover of the Baluchestan Liberation Front, has taken up arms to demand autonomy for the province.

The Iranian Army is desperately short of heavy weapons--fighter planes, tanks and missiles in particular. Its traditional suppliers--the United States and Britain--are refusing to deliver the equipment purchased and paid for by the former regime. France, which was approached after the release of the American hostages and the lifting of the European embargo, prefers to deal exclusively with Iraq--one of its preferred clients. The USSR cannot replace the Western powers unless Tehran decides to reorganize its armed forces on the Soviet model, and that seems out of the question in wartime. Hence Iran is forced to turn to the international black market to buy the spare parts it needs for its American equipment, and to buy light arms from countries like the GDR and North Korea. But Iran now has in reserve half the fighter planes and helicopters and one-fifth the tanks that Iraq has. Hence the reduction, or even virtual suspension, of air attacks, and on the ground the position warfare is usually waged not by the regular army but by the pasdaran, whose tasks are now divided between maintaining law and order at home and defending the borders.

If it were true that money is the key to war the Islamic Republic's defeat would be inevitable. Its international reserves are melting like butter in the sun: from $6 billion in January to $4 billion--the lowest level since the revolution. And this has happened despite the agreement reached with the United States on the hostages which restored only $3 billion to the Iranian state (out of the $24 billion claimed by Tehran). It has also happened despite the export of 1.4 million barrels of oil per day, which bring in $16-18 billion per year. Iraq, for its part, exports half as much fuel, but Saudi Arabia is selling some of its own production for the Baghdad Government, which gives the latter comfortable reserves put at between $20 and $25 billion in currency.

The Tehran government, which does not have such generous friends, calculated that it needed to double its exports of mineral oil to balance its budget. It has the technical and material means of doing so. Aside from the Abadan and Kermanshah refineries, destroyed by the Iraqi Air Force, its refineries are intact, as are its oilfields, almost all its pumping stations and oil pipelines.

But the international oil cartel is shunning the Islamic Republic. It will not need it as long as Saudi Arabia continues to flood the international market with its production and as long as world reserves are so abundant. Unless, of course, Iran considerably reduces its price....

The problem of income is crucial for Khomeyni's republic. Not only to finance the war but also and more especially to ensure the regime's survival by bolstering a teetering economy. Industry is only functioning at 40 percent of its prerevolutionary capacity. Agriculture, after an ephemeral upsurge, is in danger following the collapse of the structures of the modern sector. The GNP growth rate has dropped by 30 percent since the fall of the monarchy. According to conflicting estimates, unemployment has reached between 2.5 and 4 million, not counting the war refugees. Officially the inflation rate is 30 percent, but the prices of some essential products have doubled and, in some case, trebled in a few months. Social discontent is spreading dangerously. It must be concluded, therefore, that the "normality" which Tehran displays is merely one facet of a complex situation.

The leaders have developed a siege mentality. They are convinced that all the foreign powers have done all they can to crush the Islamic Republic from outside and also to undermine it from within.

Thus, the Kurdish and Baluchi rebellions, the guerrilla warfare waged by the Mojahedin-e Khalq and the Marxist "leftists," the agitation being maintained by the "liberal" bourgeois, crowned by the "dissidence" of Mr Bani-Sadr, former president of the republic, are attributed to imperialism's "rampant plot." The Islamic Republic has therefore launched into the era of "revolutionary terror" with an easy conscience.

Part II

PM241539 Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Jul 81 p 5

[Part II of Erich Rouleau dispatch: "Iran: Revolution and Counterrevolution. II--The Terror"]

[Text] Tehran--The Evin Prison is unlike any other. It is constructed on undulating hills with a panoramic view over the capital and surrounded by trees and thickets, and it could have been used as a retreat. It may be this bucolic environment which gives this bastille an even more sinister atmosphere. Under the monarchy it was used to neutralize opponents; those who survived have returned here since the revolution, some as jailers, prosecutors or judges and others as prisoners or condemned men awaiting execution.

It is impossible to do more than guess at the horror. Around 20 women, dressed in black chadors and blindfolded, marched in line round the prison yard. They were unsteady on their feet and held each other by the shoulder to avoid stumbling. Some of them were beautiful young adolescents. They had just been judged by a revolutionary court. Where were they being taken? To their cells or the the gallows? They possibly did not even know themselves. Death sentences are carried out at random either immediately after the verdict, at dawn the next day, months later or never. This is possibly the supreme torture inflicted on the Islamic Republic's enemies.

The "trials," generally held in a single sitting lasting from a few minutes to several hours, take place behind closed doors. The accused do not enjoy the help of a lawyer or the presence of their close relatives. Of course, they are entitled to defend themselves. But they have to improvise because the prosecutor informs them verbally of the charges against them at the beginning of the hearing. They are not shown the evidence submitted by the witnesses, which most frequently consists of evidence given by policemen or informers.

If the accused are obviously guilty of crimes, why are the trials not given as much publicity as possible? Why are courtroom doors closed to journalists? Tehran Prosecutor Mr Lajvardi, to whom we put these questions, experienced the arbitrary methods of the previous regime, SAVAK's prisons and torture, witnessed summary executions. But he is apparently devoid of any feeling except perhaps that of vengeance. He replied: "We do not have time to invite journalists; we are working day and night at the greatest speed." That is true: Mr Lajvardi has had an average of six "counterrevolutionaries" per day executed in the past few weeks. He thinks there is merit in this. Some of these young "criminals," he reported, tried to slow down the proceedings by refusing to give their names. "They must have thought we were going to apply Western laws!" he exclaimed, sneering, his eyes shining with malice behind his thick, myope's spectacles. They were wrong: Those young accused were nonetheless shot and buried in complete anonymity....

Some prominent people such as Ayatollah Khalkhali or Hojjato-ol Eslam Hadi Ghaffari, both deputies, glorify the terror in their harangues, invoking the defense of the revolution. Most keep quiet, out of caution or modesty. The ambassador of a country reputed to be a friend of the Islamic Republic, outraged by the ferocity of the repression, said in our presence to a security chief, one of the pasdaran leaders: "The shah, who was an expert in the matter, had more opponents killed than you.... But he was overthrown nonetheless. Nothing can replace a political solution...." His interlocutor said nothing and looked down.

Hojjat-ol Eslam Mohammad Montazeri, who was nonetheless an ardent defender of the revolution, did not agree with the hasty and secret nature of the trials. On 27 June he telephoned the Tehran prosecutor to ask him to liberalize the procedure but Mr Lajvardi was not in his office. The next day Mr Montazeri died under the ruins of the Islamic Republican Party [IRP] headquarters, blown up by opposition guerrillas. But would he have preached moderation if he had survived an attack which was to cost the lives of 73 other leaders?

Thousands of Arrests

Terrorism is certainly helping the government's "hardline" wing in that it had been seeking an opportunity and justification for eliminating the Islamic regime's enemies. Nobody, not even Mr Mehdi Bazargan, leader of the "liberals" and known for his bluntness, dared speak out after the 28 June attack to protest the summary executions. Only Tudeh Party Secretary General Nureddin Kianuri timidly ventured to "deplore the excesses which are discrediting our revolution" in an interview. By way of example he cited the execution of writer Sa'id Soltanpur, member of the leadership of the minority wing of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization.

State terror and the opposition's terrorism feed on each other. The explosions of bombs and Molotov cocktails in public places, the burning of official buildings, the murder of top officials, the attacks on the forces of order, and the various kinds of attacks which have been perpetrated in increasing numbers in the month following the 20 June riots, have killed almost the same number of people, around 200, as have been executed during the same period.

The symmetry is only apparent, however. More important than this spectacular aspect of the confrontation is the fact that the government has taken advantage of it to deal its adversaries savage blows. Thousands of arrests and searches have been carried out: clandestine printing presses and arsenals have been seized; official cadres have been arrested and networks of militants have been disbanded or destroyed. The authorities are therefore in a position to attain their main objective in removing Mr Bani-Sadr from office.

The former president of the republic was the first of the targets chosen. For good reason. He was paralyzing the machinery of state by refusing to ratify the laws passed by parliament. He was campaigning against all aspects of government policy, going so far as to call upon the deputies to reject the draft budget. Above all, he had become the focal point for all kinds of discontent, the standard-bearer of a wide range of groups, from royalists to Maoists and including the secular right and the Islamic left.

However, since Mr Bani-Sadr did not have his own political party, he was deemed less dangerous in the short term than his allies, especially the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Mr Mas'ud Rajavi's party, a Muslim movement which has a radical if not a Marxist program, was emerging increasingly as the alternative to the ruling IRP. The Mojahedin, who have influence among young people, students, intellectuals, the urban petit bourgeoisie and even, some say, in some sectors of the working class, have forged a highly structured organization and have built up large arsenals. Trained in clandestine activity and urban guerrilla warfare under the shah, they posed a constant threat to the regime.

Unlike other leftwing movements, which after the revolution agreed--or pretended to agree--to bow to "republican law," the Mojahedin had resisted the authorities' orders in this respect with rare obstinacy. In mid-May Imam Khomeyni himself publicly urged them to lay down their arms, accusing them of planning an armed struggle. They denied the remarks made by the founder of the Islamic Republic, not without arousing almost universal skepticism. Not only did they publicly support the ideas of those who were resorting to violence--especially the Kurdish guerrillas led by Mr Qasemlu, who is also accused of being in league with the Iraqi enemy--but they were rash enough to justify their attitude in a way which was going to make the authorities even more distrustful.

In an "open letter" widely publicized in the press shortly after Imam Khomeyni's appeal, they asserted that the possession of arms was in keeping with Islamic culture and the tradition of jihad (holy war). It constitutes, they added literally, "a guarantee of the continuation of the revolution and an obstacle to the counterrevolution's activities." The challenge first took shape on 20 June during their demonstration in Mr Bani-Sadr's favor, which resulted in a violent riot followed by the wave of attacks, which are, rightly or wrongly, attributed to them.

Even more serious is the fact that the Mojahedin are regarded by the authorities as the "armed instrument" of the right, whose influence is predominent in the bazaar, the civil service, and the army in particular. The areas of agreement between Mr Mas'ud Rajavi's party and the representatives of the "liberal" bourgeoisie are indeed worrying. The Mojahedin, which emerged from a split within Mr Bazargan's Freedom Movement, regarded Mr Bazargan's provisional government as the lesser of two evils and gave him "critical support." In exchange, Mr Bazargan, Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh and Mr Ebrahim Yazdi among others, before Mr Bani-Sadr, constantly demonstrated their sympathy for Mr Rajavi'. They publicly supported his candidacy in the parliamentary elections and, at the beginning of May, Mr Bazargan's daily advised Imam Khomeyni to meet with a Mojahedin delegation "in order to avert a civil war." The "liberals," it should be remembered, are regarded as the "henchmen of American imperialism."

Thus, the circle is complete. The terror exercised by the state and the brutality of the repression applied without distinction to the Mojahedin, emenent representatives of the bazaar, royalists and "leftists" are in keeping with the fear felt in face of what is seen as "the united front of the counterrevolution," whose social and political foundations are far from negligible.

Part III

PM271356 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Jul 81 p 5

[Part III of Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Iran: Revolution and Counterrevolution. III--The Polarization"]

[Text] Tehran--The Iranians could not believe it. The scene on the small screen before their eyes was unprecedented: Marxist or Islamic leaders discussing their ideological and political differences. A televised debate in eight episodes, each lasting 180 minutes and shown at prime time!

It was a face-to-face meeting between the stars: Ayatollah Beheshti, chairman of the Islamic Republic Party [IRP] (who has since been killed in an attack); Mr Nureddin Kianuri, secretary general of the communist Tudeh Party; Ehsan Tabari, a famous philosopher and writer and a Tudeh Party Politburo member; Farrokh Negahdar, member of the leadership of the majority wing of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq (Marxist-Leninist), not to mention the leader of Jombesh Mosalman Mobarez (the militant Muslims' organization with socialist leanings) and eminent Shi'ite ulema such as Hojjat-ol Eslam Mezbazadeh.

No subject left the viewers indifferent. The protagonists compared their convictions, sometimes energetically but always with the utmost courtesy, on such diverse subjects as political and religious freedom in the USSR and the Islamic Republic, the ethnic minorities' right to autonomy, social justice, dialectical materialsim and Muslim Messianism, atheism and the oneness of God. The round-table discussion, which was originally to be joined by around 10 parties, was eventually only attended by 4. The Mojahedin-e Khalq, the National Front (pro-Mossadeq), the Freedom Movement (Mr Bazargan's movement), Jama (Dr Sami's movement) and Mr Bani-Sadr himself had declined at the last minute after posing a series of conditions deemed unacceptable by an arbitration committee. A few days later came the crisis which was to lead to the violent confrontation between the government and the "united front of counterrevolutionaries."

Contrary to what one might be tempted to believe, the trial of strength is not essentially between clerics and secular groups. There are almost as many Islamic or Marxist parties and groups in one camp as there are in the other. Several extreme leftwing parties--the Tudeh, the majority wing of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq, the revolutionary workers' party (Trotskyists), workers' voice, the Kurdish Democratic Party fourth congress faction, among others--support the regime. Having agreed to respect the Constitution, to hand over their weapons to the authorities and to limit their activities to the political sphere. These parties are in principle tolerated in various spheres: access to radio and television, distribution of newspapers and books which can be bought in kiosks, right to hold public meetings. For instance the Feda'iyan-e Khalq were able to hold a meeting for 100,000 people in a stadium in downtown Tehran to celebrate 1 May.

Differing analyses are behind the split and determine the respective strategy and tactics of the opposing camps. Is the Khomeyni regime anti-imperialist? To this question, regarded as crucial, the pro-Khomeyni Marxists reply in the affirmative without hesitation. Hence they think that the defense of the republic in the face of "foreign and local reaction" should logically come before any other consideration.

The critical support which they give the government is therefore only aimed at strengthening it. The Tudeh and Feda'iyan-e Khalq press are ready to point out the weakness and shortcomings of the leadership team, criticizing it for its timidity in implementing the agrarian reform and nationalizing foreign trade, its sectarian view of education reform, its inability to draw up a foreign policy in keeping with the country's interests and its undermining of revolutionary freedoms. It does not attack the IRP as such but its reactionary wing, which is accused of weakening the anti-imperialist movement by seeking to monopolize power and professing fundamental anticommunism and by indulging in blind repression which hits supporters and opponents of the revolution without distinction.

However, those are all just "secondary inconsistencies" compared with the "essential" point in the eyes of the Tudeh secretary general. Asked why he had merely raised a feeble protest against the recent ban on MARDOM, the party's central organ, Mr Kianuri told us: "Even if our party were to be banned and our members persecuted we would continue to defend Imam Khomeyni's line which consists of fighting imperialism and its local agents, the 'liberals' and the 'Maoists.' Our position in this respect is based neither on partisan considerations nor on tactical maneuvers. Our support for the revolution is strategic in nature."

The Opposition's Viewpoint

The opposition parties--royalists, "liberal" bourgeois, the Maoist or pro-Albanian Marxists, Mr Qasemlu's Kurdish guerrillas, the Muslim People's Party, close to Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, in particular--have a diametrically opposed viewpoint, and with good reason. In their view the Khomeyni regime is merely "superficially" anti-imperialist. Some regard it as the "objective" ally of American neocolonialism, on the same footing as Saudi Arabia's "orthodox" monarchy; others, however, think he is playing into the hands of Soviet expansionism. Hence it is the duty of every patriot to oppose the "mullahs' dictatorship," by arms if necessary. No representative of these groups, aside from "liberal" leader Bazargan, and in his case only after great pressure, has condemned the attacks which killed, among others, 74 prominent Khomeyni supporters. Mr Shapur Bakhtiar justified them in a way by stating in Paris that he "condemned them while understanding them."

Since last winter the Tudeh and Feda'iyan-e Khalq majority have been launching an explanatory campaign in their press designed to dissociate the Mojahedin-e Khalq, whose members are described as "excessive progressives," from the "counterrevolutionary front," whose objectives "are indistinguishable from Mr Reagan's."

MARDOM accuses the Majahedin leadership of underestimating the danger of an imperialst restoration and of overestimating certain reactionary characteristics of the ruling petite bourgeoisie in Tehran. Leftism, the communist paper added, is comparable to a radish: The skin is red but the center is white. Did not the Chilean leftists' action contribute to the overthrow of the popular Allende regime?

The Mojadedin leadership has not only refused the "fraternal dialogue" offered to it by the Tudeh and the Feda'iyan-e Khalq, but has forbidden its members "any contact with these spies, these former SAVAK agents," to whom they promise "just retribution" when the time comes.

The Mojahedin-e Khalq have not, however, formed an official alliance with the "liberal" groups, which have just secretly formed a "higher coordination council." One council member, who naturally wishes to remain anonymous, told us: "We are holding talks with the Mojahedin since their movement and ours, despite our divergences, are complementary. Their organizational capacity and arsenals on the one hand, and our influence among the public on the other, could combine to bring about an uprising of the people and the armed forces." Asked whether he was not afraid of the Mojahedin's radicalism dominating a future regime, he told us: "Not at all, because only we can provide the essential cadres for managing the state. In any case, our support among the people is much broader than theirs."

Even though it is true that the majority of the population has remained more or less Khomeynist, there can be no doubt that a large proportion of the elite, senior civil servants and top figures in crucial centers of the economy constitute the traditional clientele of the "liberals." The bazaar, which was one of the driving forces of the uprising against the monarchy, has been alienated to a considerable extent by the measures taken against the well-to-do. In 2 years 51 industrial complexes have been expropriated, 600 enterprises nationalized and some 100,000 buildings, houses and apartments and most hotels and movie theaters seized and handed over to the foundation for the underprivileged. The middle classes, which have not yet been affected, fear the consequences of the nationalization of the foreign trade which is now being discussed in the Majlis. Many deputies have been raving about "the exploiters of the people." Even engineer Sahabi, a political ally of Mr Bazargan, has denounced the bazaar merchants' "exorbitant profits"--1.2 trillion rials (Fr 1 equals 15 rials) last year, that is, three times more than during the best year under the Shah!

The mercantile bourgeoisie, which supplies more than 50 percent of the gross national product, has, therefore, remained a power to reckon with. Especially since its sons are civil servants, lawyers, officers, professors and members of the higher clergy--all categories which have reasons for being dissatisfied with the regime. The salaries of the top civil servants who have not fallen victim of successive purges have been reduced 75 percent since the revolution. As a result of inflation, the purchasing power of other state employees has fallen 60 percent. Army commanders, who are still distrusted, feel that they are treated as second-class citizens. As a result of the institutionalization of special courts and the indefinite closure of universities for "reorganization," thousands of lawyers and teachers have lost their jobs. More generally, the puritanical sternness of Islamic justice combined with punishment reminiscent of earlier days has exasperated an intelligentsia which although "Westernized" or "cosmopolitan" could have been won over, at least partly, to the national and social objectives of the revolution.

Therefore, the political polarization now in progress is taking place in accordance with strange principles, different from those which have ensued elsewhere from similar upheavals. More than ever the course of the revolution remains unpredictable. However, much depends on the results of underhand struggles among the clergy, both an integral part of the political world and a mirror of the contradictions which are perturbing it.

TEHRAN CRITICIZES BBC PROGRAMMING ON IRAN

LD271515 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 27 Jul 81

[From the "On the Fringes of the News" program: "Text" of "The International Repercussions of the 24 July Elections," from the 27 July issue of SOBH-E AZADEGAN]

[Excerpts] At a time when the world-devouring imperialists were entertaining the idea of seeing the fall of the Islamic Republican regime, they realized on 24 July that no power could materialize their wish.

To give you an idea of the global stance adopted on the elections, we shall take a look at the talks and news reports carried by imperialist radios before and after the elections. To begin with, we shall have a look at the BBC, the mouthpiece of the colonialist Foreign Office of Britain. This radio, particularly after the REUTER offices were closed because of their espionage operations and misrepresentations, has stepped up its instigations, trying to tarnish Islamic Iran's image in the world. In its "Jam-e Nama" [the crystal ball] program on 10 July, this radio announced: "Considering the government's use of force and its harsh repression of the opposition, it is doubtful that anyone would show any interest in the elections at all." This was the first step taken by the BBC to discourage the Muslim Iranian nation from taking part in the sensitive and important elections. By this method, the BBC was trying to (?prove its point).

Quoting an article from the infamous Zionist publication, the GUARDIAN, written on 11 July by the paper's correspondent who had just returned from Tehran, the radio says that because of their inability, the ideologues are prepared to make use of the services of the experts left over from the shah's regime and that the harsh SAVAK agents have been reinstated.

BBC's objective in making such totally false statements is nothing but to create doubts in the mind of the nation about the loyal and committed Muslim individuals. The BBC knows quite well that these people enjoy the people's confidence and that they would be elected on 24 July to replace the compromising individuals who were supporting the West. Therefore, the BBC is trying to tarnish such greatness and such an uncompromising attitude by any means.

This mouthpiece of the old and dilapidated British imperialism later continued its total machinations by trying to create certain atmospheres. On 22 July, it raised the issue of boycotting the elections that he [presumably Bani-Sadr] had addressed to another infamous person, Rajavi [leader of the Mojahedin-e Khalq]. On 23 July, when in fact the final attempts by these liars took shape, it was announced that most opposition groups were boycotting the elections. BBC did not bother to mention even one group, because it knows quite well that the people have identified their character types and that their words carry no weight at all.

Meanwhile, in order to attach great significance to the defecting pro-American National Front and its puppet agents like Bani-Sadr, a talk was broadcast to the effect that the National Front and Bani-Sadr have called on the people to resist and refrain from taking part in the elections. The talk stated that this boycott led to great anxiety in the government, forcing it to call on religious leaders to urge the people to participate in the elections as a religious duty.

It seems that these infamous circles are unaware that the dependent nationalists and their primary agent, Bani-Sadr, have been rejected. By broadcasting such false talks they are trying to make the people believe that Bani-Sadr and the nationalists carry some weight. Even during the glorious days of the revolution, the BBC always tried to present the dependent and defecting individuals belonging to the pro-American National Front--people such as the Sanjabis, the Foruhars and others--as the leaders of the opposition front. These people were given great prominence so that the BBC could make use of them in the future. The same thing holds true even today.

SRI LANKA

PARLIAMENT CENSORS OPPOSITION LEADER 24 JUL

BK241718 Hong Kong AFP in English 1701 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] Colombo, 24 Jul (AFP)--Sri Lankan Parliament tonight adopted an unprecendented motion declaring that it has no confidence in the leader of the opposition, Appapillai Amirthalingam.

Mr Amirthalingam, 54, is also the leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) which is campaigning for a separate state in the northern and eastern provinces for the minority Tamils who comprise 11.2 per cent of the country's population.

The motion sponsored by 38 government parliamentarians censored Mr Amirthalingam for statements advocating a separate state for the Tamils as reported in two Indian newspapers in January this year. The motion was discussed over two days and the vote was taken in the absence of the entire opposition who staged a walkout yesterday. The motion was adopted with 121 voting for and none against while two members abstained.

Mr S. Thondaman, minister of rural industrial development and president of the Ceylon Workers Congress, which represents Tamil people of Indian origin working in Sri Lanka's tea plantations in the central hills, declined to vote. Mr Shelton Ranaraja, deputy minister of justice, was the other who abstained from voting.

The passage of the motion will not affect Mr Thondaman's [as received] position as leader of the oppositions as he still continues to enjoy the confidence of the members of the opposition, political observers said.

Members of the opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and the lone communist member walked out of the Parliament yesterday when the speaker refused their request to rule the motion out of order.

Members of Mr Amirthalingam's TULF had also walked out of the chamber only minutes earlier when a request by Mr Amirthalingam to make a statement of personal explanation on another matter before the no confidence motion was taken up was turned down by the speaker, Mr Bakeer Markar.

A government spokesman said that although the motion was not officially moved by the government and was considered as a private member's motion, the government would still have to take note of the views expressed in the course of the debate.

The parliamentarians stressed in their speeches that they were not against the Tamil people but they were against the moves to divide the country into two separate states.

Dr Neville Fernando, who moved the motion on behalf of the other signitatories, urged the government to prescribe the TULF for trying to create a separate state. He also said that any persons who calls for separation should be deprived of their civic rights and laws should be passed to haul them before the courts and punish them with imprisonment or even death. Dr Fernando also proposed that all privileges granted to Mr Amirthalingam as leader of the opposition such as an official residence, an official car, a diplomatic passport and police protection, should be withdrawn.

PRIME MINISTER VISITS GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

For East German media reportage of the visit for Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa to the German Democratic Repubublic, see page E 2 of the 23 July East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRIME MINISTER, DELEGATION VISIT YUGOSLAVIA

For Belgrade TANJUG accounts of the visit to Yugoslavia by a Sri Lanka delegation led by Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, see the Yugoslav section of the 27 July Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.